

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

----- 109829

R 261245Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8956

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 04952

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN FROM AMBASSADOR

DEPT PLEASE REPEAT AS APPROPRIATE

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, TECH, GW

SUBJECT: FRG NUCLEAR EXPORTS TO BRAZIL

REF: A. STATE 066712, B. STATE 066020,

C. STATE 048844, D. BONN 02895

1. SUMMARY. AMBASSADOR CALLED ON ACTING FONMIN GEHLHOFF, FRG FOREIGN OFFICE, ON MARCH 25 TO REITERATE POINTS MADE BY DEPUTY SECRETARY TO AMBASSADOR VON STADEN ON MARCH 24. GEHLHOFF ASSURED AMBASSADOR THAT FRG WAS VERY SERIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT PROBLEM OF PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND WOULD GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO US URGENT REQUEST FOR BILATERAL TECHNICAL CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO FRG-BRAZIL AGREEMENT ON EXPORTS OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. HE BELIEVED THAT THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE BUT COULD NOT RESPOND FORMALLY AT THE PRESENT TIME. END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS TO MEET WITH GEHLHOFF AND HIS PROMPT ACTION WERE EVIDENCE OF IMPORTANCE US ATTACHES TO COORDINATED INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO AVOID PROLIFERATION OF  
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NUCLEAR WEAPONS. AMBASSADOR REVIEWED POINTS OUTLINED

IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF REFTEL A, EMPHASIZING SECRETARY'S PERSONAL INTEREST, US BELIEF THAT MULTILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WILL BE SUCCESSFUL, THE URGENT US DESIRE FOR BILATERAL TECHNICAL CONSULTATIONS AND OUR REQUEST THAT FRG DELAY AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL PENDING THESE CONSULTATIONS.

3. GEHLHOFF ASSURED AMBASSADOR THAT FRG HAS VERY SERIOUS INTEREST IN PREVENTING PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY IS AN UNAVOIDABLE FEATURE OF OUR MODERN SOCIETY AND FRG HAS EARNESTLY ATTEMPTED TO MINIMIZE RISKS. NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRAZIL HAVE YIELDED RESULTS BETTER THAN EXPECTED -- NOT AN IDEAL SOLUTION, BUT A REALISTIC ONE.

4. GERMANY HAD RESPONDED POSTIVELY TO US PROPOSALS FOR A NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS' CONFERENCE. BUT, AFTER FOUR MONTHS, THE CONFERENCE HAS NOT YET BEGUN. IN THE FRG JUDGEMENT, THEREFORE, A COMMON POSITION AMONG ALL SUPPLIER NATIONS WILL NOT ACHIEVE MORE THAN GERMANY HAS ALREADY ACHIEVED IN ITS NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRAZIL. GEHLHOFF ACKNOWLEDGED THAT US AND FRG COULD AGREE TO MORE ON A BILATERAL BASIS BUT HE BELIEVED THAT ONE OR MORE OTHER NATIONS WOULD NOT GO ALONG.

5. GEHLHOFF SAID THAT HE WAS NOT ABLE AT PRESENT TO GIVE A FORMAL FRG RESPONSE TO THE US REQUEST FOR BILATERAL TECHNICAL CONSULTATIONS AND DELAY IN AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL. HE BELIEVED IT POSSIBLE THAT FRG COULD ACCEPT THIS US REQUEST. HOWEVER, FRG MUST CONSIDER THE LEVEL OF ITS PARTICIPATION IN THESE CONSULTATIONS AND WHETHER THEY COULD BE LIMITED TO TECHNICAL MATTERS. GEHLHOFF REMARKED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PROMISE TO DELAY AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL UNTIL THE CONSULTATIONS WERE COMPLETED. CONSULTATIONS COULD, OF COURSE, GO ON WITHOUT END.

6. AMBASSADOR PROMPTLY REJECTED ANY INFERENCE THAT IT WAS THE INTENTION OF THE USG TO USE THESE CONSULTATIONS TO DELAY THE FRG-BRAZIL COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT. USG  
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WAS GREATLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS THE TRANSFER OF THIS TECHNOLOGY COULD HAVE ON INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO PREVENT PROLIFERATION.

7. AMBASSADOR THEN PROBED SEEKING REASONS FOR GERMAN PESSIMISM ABOUT RESULTS OF NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS' CONFERENCE, WHICH BOTH VON STADEN AND GEHLOFF HAD EXPRESSED. GEHLOFF ADMITTED FRG PESSIMISTIC. THE

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8957

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 04952

EXDIS

DECISIVE FACTOR WAS THE DELAY. TALKS HAD BEGUN IN NOVEMBER AND NOT ALL ("ALL" WITH NOTABLE EMPHASIS) HAD RESPONDED. THIS INDICATED TO FRG THAT NOT ALL (EMPHASIZED) NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS WERE READY FOR A FAR-REACHING AGREEMENT.

EMBASSY NOTE: GEHLHOFF'S EMPHASIS ON THE WORD "ALL" SHOULD CLEARLY BE READ "FRENCH."

8. AMBASSADOR ASKED WHY GERMAN INDUSTRIES BELIEVED THEIR INTERESTS REQUIRED SALE OF REPROCESSING PLANT TO BRAZIL. WHY WAS FRG WILLING TO APPROVE THE SALE OF THIS SENSITIVE TECHNOLOGY? DR. RANDERMANN, CHIEF, FONOFF ATOMIC ENERGY AFFAIRS OFFICE, EXPLAINED THAT BRAZIL WANTED FACILITIES FOR COMPLETE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE. THE PACKAGE FRG WAS OFFERING WOULD EMPHASIZE LIGHT WATER REACTORS, WHICH WERE SAFER FROM PROLIFERATION VIEWPOINT THAN THE HEAVY WATER REACTORS WHICH WERE AN ALTERNATE CHOICE. RANDERMANN BELIEVED THAT BRAZILIAN REPROCESSING CAPABILITY WOULD GROW SLOWLY. A PILOT PLANT WOULD BE FIRST STEP; TEN YEARS WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR FULL DEVELOPMENT.

9. IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR'S QUESTION, FRG OFFICIALS SAID THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRAZIL WERE ESSENTIALLY CONCLUDED. FORMAL AGREEMENT TO SAFEGUARDS OUTLINED IN BONN 02897 WOULD BE NEXT STEP IN

GOVERNMENT-GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WERE  
SEPARATE FROM COMMERCIAL AGREEMENTS REQUIRED. MEETING  
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CONCLUDED AS AMBASSADOR ONCE AGAIN URGED PROMPT  
POSITIVE RESPONSE TO URGENT US REQUEST FOR BILATERAL  
CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO FINAL AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL.  
HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

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